



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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VOL. XX
No. 28

JULY 20, 1998

PROPOSED \$411 MILLION BASEBALL PARK FOR PADRES TO FACE SAN DIEGO VOTERS NOV. 3RD.

Editor's note: During 1997, Calpeek wrote about 20 stories dealing with *public funding of sports facilities*, including articles about the stadium expansion in San Diego, the battle to return the NFL to L.A., the narrow victory by the 49ers in San Francisco for a new football stadium and the brouhaha surrounding a new arena for the L.A. Lakers, Kings & Clippers. Now voters in San Diego will see a ballot measure Nov. 3rd dealing with a funding plan for a new \$411 million stadium for the *San Diego Padres*, who say that *without* a new ballpark they'll leave town when their lease expires. Here's our first brief report & analysis...

...On July 14th, S.D. Mayor Susan Golding (with 7 of 8 councilmembers) and Padres owners Larry Lucchino and John Moores announced a tentative deal to build a new 42,000-seat stadium, with the city putting up 70% and the Padres 30%. The city's portion would come from hotel taxes - not from a sales or property tax hike. The actual language of the measure isn't known, so it's impossible to tell *exactly* what voters would be voting on in November...

...But here's what we have learned: 1) There are some concerns being expressed by downtown business types and property owners about this deal; 2) Councilman Juan Vargas has some reservations about the deal; and 3) there are other opponents (of the perennial kind) who say, "*Why give San Diego tax dollars to rich sports owners*"? Whether any of this current opposition will solidify remains to be seen, but at least there's a public vote, which didn't occur on the Charger deal...

...What kind of fight can Mayor Golding and the Padres expect? Calpeek has seen some polling data, but the signals seem *mixed*. 65% surveyed think it's important

the Padres remain, but 56% say tax dollars should be used for San Diego's needs, *not* a new baseball stadium. On the broad general question of how would you vote if the election were held now: 40% YES vs. 40% NO, with 20% undecided. The data also suggests a *gender gap*, with men in favor and women *against*. Also older voters tend to oppose this deal. Our sources say no poll taken so far shows this proposal breaking the 50% mark for approval...

...FYI: public funding of sports facilities is a very volatile issue for elected officials. Some think the *San Diego Charger* deal to rebuild Jack Murphy Stadium (now Qualcomm Stadium) cost Susan Golding a shot at the U.S. Senate. So the big question is this: if this proposed measure is defeated, who gets blamed for losing the Padres?? Stay tuned...

MORE SUMMER VACATION TIME FOR CALPEEK

Calpeek will be on vacation again the week of July 20th. So don't look for a newsletter next week on July 27th. Issue #29 will be dated Aug. 3rd. We're taking another week in August and a final summer vacation break the first week in September...

CAMPAIGN '98: UTILITIES AND THEIR ALLIES FORM HUGE COALITION TO FIGHT ANTI-NUKE INITIATIVE.

Editor's note: The official ballot title of Prop. #9 is *Electric Utilities. Assessments. Bonds. Initiative Statute*. This measure aimed at overturning SB 1890 is really nothing more than a plan by a group of activists who don't want consumers to provide what they call *bail out money* to the utility firms who run Calif.'s two remaining *nuclear power plants*. If approved Nov. 3rd, this initiative will be known as the *Full Employment Act for Attorneys* because there will be legal battles all over the place. Here's our update & analysis on a very complex initiative...

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK (ISSN 0195-6175) IS AN INDEPENDENT, NONPARTISAN NEWS ANALYSIS BULLETIN OF CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION. TELEPHONE: (310)659-0205. ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1468, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213. \$90/YEAR. PUBLISHED WEEKLY, 44 WEEKS PER YEAR. COPYRIGHTED BY CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK, INC. THIS TRADEMARK REGISTERED WITH THE CALIF. SECRETARY OF STATE. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART REQUIRES EXPRESS PERMISSION. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. 1ST CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT LOS ANGELES.

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...When SB 1890 was *unanimously approved* by the Legislature in 1996, it was hailed as a landmark bill aimed at total deregulation of the electric utility industry. It took 8-10 months to hammer out, with lots of give-and-take. Many environmental groups, organized labor and even some consumer groups either supported SB 1890 or were neutral --- including TURN (The Utility Reform Network), which is now part of the umbrella coalition supporting this initiative...

...There's no doubt that nuclear power was over-sold to the public. But in the 1970s backers viewed nuclear power as more economical & cleaner than other forms of energy. We know more now. Regardless, Calif.'s two remaining nuclear plants generate 20% of the power used by all the CA investor-owned utilities. If this initiative is approved, the deregulation plan would be scrapped and this could cost the utility firms and their shareholders as much as **\$4.9 billion**. The *dereg* plan allows the utilities to charge customers for the cost of phasing out these plants, as well as other forms of energy which may not prove economical. In return, utilities have reduced overall rates by 10% - which is partially paid for by **\$6 billion** in bonds. This would be scrapped too if #9 is approved. A huge legal and taxpayer problem here, according to the Calif. Taxpayers Assn., who are opposed to #9...

...The YES on #9 goes by the name of *Californians Against Utility Taxes*(CUT) - somehow the A gets chopped. Doug Heller is the daily cmp. mgr.; Bill Gallagher is one of the spokespersons; the S.F.-based Public Media Center will handle paid media. And initiative co-sponsor Harvey Rosenfield is a key player too. Rosenfield, who was battling for HMO reform at the time, wasn't at the table when SB 1890 was passed, but as a Prop. #9 source told **Calpeek**, "A lot of people were caught with their pants down." The campaign's website is: www.nomukebailout.org. The campaign ☎ (310)392-0522...

...Haven't seen a list of those organizations who support Prop. #9, but a number of environmental organizations are on the NO side. Some environmental groups see YES on 9 as a threat to renewable sources of energy(wind, solar, geothermal, biomass). The YES side simply says that those environmental groups who are opposed to #9 are "sell outs." The Planning & Conservation League, the Environmental Defense Fund

and Natural Resources Defense Council see it very differently - saying that Prop. #9 will harm these types of renewal energy...

...The NO side goes by the name of *Californians for Affordable & Reliable Electric Services*(CARES). Love these names. The current ☎ is (916)341-1025. Among the organizations signed up to oppose Prop. #9 are CA Chamber, CA School Boards Assn., CA Small Business Assn., CA Healthcare Assn., CA Retailers Assn., CA Farm Bureau Assn., L.A. County Federation of Labor, CA League of Food Processors, CA Restaurant Assn., CA Mfg. Assn., CA Teachers Assn. and CA School Employees Assn. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: UPDATE ON U.S. HOUSE CONTESTS.

Editor's note: Here is Part IV of our post-primary update on key U.S. House races in November...

☑ **46th CD** - The day **Calpeek** went to press with last week's issue, Chapman University in Orange released a survey on this high profile battle between U.S. Rep. Loretta Sanchez(D) and former Congressman Bob Dornan(R). The poll of 436 registered voters (taken in early July) shows Sanchez out in front with **45%** vs. **24%** for Dornan, with **26%** undecided. Sanchez does very well with GOP voters - getting 26% vs. only 7.5% of Demos who support Dornan...

☑ **36th CD** - Demos are really going to push hard to hold on to U.S. Rep. Jane Harman's 36th CD. Demo nominee Janice Hahn has recently reshuffled her campaign team, adding more experience and depth. Savvy campaign pro Julio Ramirez, who was a deputy cmp. mgr. in Harman's primary (and is close to Demo king-maker Bill Wardlaw), will be the new daily campaign mgr. Kim Richan will be the deputy. Media consultant Bill Carrick (Morris & Carrick) has been aboard the Hahn campaign since early '98. Fairbank Maslin Maulin & Assoc. will handle polling. Cathy DuVall will handle field ops...

☑ **3rd CD** - Several weeks ago **Calpeek** put this race between Demo water attorney Sandie Dunn and GOP businessman Doug Ose in the *toss up* category, and there it remains. The only bit of news to report is that Dunn has challenged Ose to a series of fall debates. Like Hahn in the 36th CD, Demos very much would like to hold U.S. Rep. Vic Fazio's seat in the Demo

column. It may be an uphill fight because Ose is a moderate with *deep pockets*. But he may have angered conservatives with his slashing, negative campaign against GOP Assemblywoman Barbara Alby. That's Dunn's hope and she has assembled a solid group of consultants who have worked with Fazio over the years and thus know the 3rd CD. The Dixon Media Group handles media & tv; Garin Hart Yang handles polling; Jim Crounse will do the mail; Cathy DuVall is handling field ops; Jennifer Walsh, who is Fazio's D.O. director (and was Fazio's cmp. deputy in '96) is Dunn's mgr. Joseph Schultz handles free media/spinning...

☒ **27th CD** - Some more numbers for Demo challenger Barry Gordon vs. freshman U.S. Rep. James Rogan(R-Glendale). A few weeks ago **Calpeek** reported that The Feldman Group's recent polling showed Rogan with a **30%** reelect number. Now we have additional data (500 likely voters, June 30 to July 2). Rogan's reelect is now at **31%** and his personal favorability and job performance are both rated at **35%**. In a 1-on-1 match with Gordon, Rogan gets **45%** vs. **27%** for Gordon. After a series of "push questions" are thrown into the mix, Gordon leads 53% to 39%. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: 10 BALLOT MEASURES GET NUMBERS.
Editor's note: So far, **3** legislative measures & **7** ballot initiatives have qualified for the Nov. 3 fall election. And SOS Bill Jones(R) has assigned **NUMBERS** to these measures --- starting with **Prop. #1**. Its been 15 years since Calif. voters have seen a Prop. #1 statewide. Under a 1996 law, the numbering system recycles to the beginning every 10 years instead of every 20 years. Here's the list of the measures currently set for the Nov. 3rd ballot. More may be added by the Legislature, but that will require a separate ballot pamphlet costing another **\$3 million**...

◆ **Prop. #1 - ACA 2 - Property Taxation: Transfer of Base Year Value: Environmental Problems** by Assemblyman Curt Pringle(R-Garden Grove)...

◆ **Prop. #2 - ACA 30 - Transportation: Funding** by Assemblyman Kevin Murray(D-L.A.)...

◆ **Prop. #3 - SB 1505 - Presidential Primary Elections** by State Sen. John Lewis(R-Orange)...

◆ **Prop. #4 - Wildlife. Body-Gripping Traps Ban. Animal Poisons.** Initiative Statute...

◆ **Prop. #5 - Tribal-State Gaming Compacts. Tribal Casinos.** Initiative Statute...

◆ **Prop. #6 - Prohibition on Slaughter of Horses and Sale of Horsemeat for Human Consumption.** Initiative Statute...

◆ **Prop. #7 - Air Quality Improvements. Tax Credits.** Initiative Statute...

◆ **Prop. #8 - Public Schools. Class Size Reduction. Parent-Teacher Council. Teacher Credentialing.** Initiative Statute...

◆ **Prop. #9 - Electric Utilities. Assessments. Bonds.** Initiative Statute...

◆ **Prop. #10 - State and County Early Childhood Development Programs. Additional Tobacco Surtax. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.** Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: UPDATE ON STATEWIDE CONTESTS.

Editor's note: Here's a brief update on some recent campaign activity and developments...

☒ **Attorney General Race** - The first post-primary survey in the battle between State Sen. Bill Lockyer(D) and Dep. AG Dave Stirling(R) is out and it has Lockyer leading by a margin of **34%** to **21%**, with **45%** undecided. The poll was taken by the DC-based Mellman Group. The survey was done on a *piggyback basis*. LGD Insight is Lockyer's regular pollster. Sample size 750 likely voters, June 29-July 2...

☒ **Abortion Money & Politics** - A great story by Scott Moxley in the June 26th issue of *Orange Co. Weekly* (L.A. Times also ran a story about this) linking Dr. Edward C. Allred, who owns *21 abortion clinics* in Calif., to hundreds of thousands of dollars given to O.C. elected officials, including some of the more outspoken *pro-life/anti-abortion* politicians. In addition to the abortion clinics, Allred also owns a part of Los Alamitos Race Course in Cypress. According to Moxley's story, Allred (and his business associates) have given **\$435,050** to various GOP Calif. candidates, including U.S. Rep. Dana Rohrabacher; State Senators Ross Johnson & John Lewis; Assemblymembers Curt Pringle & Scott Baugh; and to Treasurer Matt Fong. All profess to be *anti-abortion*. Fong is running for the U.S. Senate, while Pringle is running for Treasurer. Very interesting stuff and some anti-abortion groups are NOT happy with these politicians who have taken Allred's money...

CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS

July 20-23	Nat'l Conf. of State Legislatures, annual meeting, Las Vegas.
July 23-25	RNC Summer meeting, New York City.
July 24	Susan McDougal goes on trial in L.A. County.
July 30	1st CA Gubernatorial Debate, Hotel Del Coronado, sponsored by CMA & CA Federation of Labor.
Aug. 18	2nd CA Gubernatorial Debate, Fresno (details to come).
Sept. 10-13	CA Judges' Assn. annual meeting, S.F.
Oct. 2-5	Nat'l League of Cities meeting, Kansas City.
Oct. 5	Last day to register to vote in CA General Election. First day to apply for Absentee Ballot for Nov. 3rd election.
Nov 3.	CA General Election.

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

■ ***McDougal Trial to Start July 24*** - Susan McDougal goes on trial in L.A. on July 24th --- accused of embezzling \$150,000 from her former employers, Zubin & Nancy Mehta. McDougal denies any wrongdoing. She was charged with this crime in late 1993, 2-3 years before she was convicted on Whitewater charges. This high profile trial will be held in Santa Monica...

■ ***Another L.A. Co. Sheriff's Update*** - L.A. Co. Sheriff Sherman Block has announced the names of his new campaign team. The only primary holdover is strategic communications exec Joe Scott. The media strategy will be handled by Bill Carrick; daily mgt. will be done by John Shallman; and fundraising will be handled by Brian Rix & Pat Bradford. The addition of Bradford & Rix is somewhat surprising because they worked for Block's rival, Lee Baca, in the primary. It's a veteran team with lots of savvy and there are already some signs that Block is going to take off the gloves and really go after Baca...

■ ***Presidential Primary Bill on Ballot*** - SB 1505 by Sen. John Lewis(R-Orange Co.) has been signed by Gov. Wilson and will appear on the Nov. 3rd ballot. This bill eliminates the blanket primary for California's ***Presidential primary*** --- because both GOP and Demo party rules state that only party members may take part in such primaries. If this measure is defeated Nov. 3rd, both the Demos & GOP may have to go to a Caucus

or Convention system to select delegates who would attend the DNC/RNC presidential conventions...

■ ***Lousy TV Coverage of Politics*** - Two recent and excellent articles have been written about the lousy tv coverage of Calif. politics. One is by San Jose Mercury News political editor Phil Trownstine and the other by AP staffer Scott Lindlaw. Lindlaw cites a 1996-97 Center for the Advancement of Modern Media analysis of 8 major media markets nationwide, where Los Angeles comes in last - providing less coverage of politics and government than stations anywhere else in the country. Among the 8 markets studied, L.A.'s political coverage amounted to only 4.5% of the total news coverage vs. 15.3% for stations in other U.S. markets. Stay tuned...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook. We've got a ton of these notes in our file...

● Savvy spin doctor Elena Stern is now working for Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa in So. Calif. FYI: Working for the Assembly Demos in *Campaign '98* are Darry Sragow & Michael Galizio. So it's the same team that guided the Demos in '96...

● Sacto-based Perry Communications Group, Inc. has changed suites at the 925 "L" Street building. New suite is 600. Same zip Sacto 95814 and same ☎...

● Mitchell Berner, chief deputy to San Diego Councilwoman Barbara Warden, has been named a Sr. VP at Stoorza, Ziegaus & Metzger. And Mark Wolfsheimer has joined the San Diego office of SZ&M as an AE...

● Campaign consultants Larry McConnell and Jack Orr have formed a new partnership. McConnell is located at 1414 Sutterville Rd., Ste. 6, Sacto 95822 ☎(916)456-9833. Orr is at 406 N.Clementine, Oceanside, CA 92054. ☎(760)439-5979...

● Attorney/architect Bruce Ehrlich joins L.A.-based Kosmont & Associates as a Sr. VP...

● Dr. John L. Scadding has joined S.F.-based Wilk & Assoc., Inc. in S.F. Scadding was COS to PUC Pres. Dick Bilas before joining Wilk & Assoc...